Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 282272
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /016 R

DRAFTED BY S/S-O:RRGAMBLE:EO
APPROVED BY S/S-O:RRGAMBLE
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
S/S ONLY
----------110113 260553Z /13
R 251953Z NOV 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

UNCLAS STATE 282272

INFORM CONSULS, FOR COM FROM DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS CENTER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: XX, US

SUBJECT: CURRENT FOREIGN RELATIONS

1. SUMMARY: YOUR VIEWS ON WHETHER CURRENT FOREIGN RELATIONS IS OF SUFFICIENT UTILITY TO JUSTIFY ITS CONTINUANCE ARE SOLICITED. YOUR RESPONSE, TO INCLUDE RECOMMENDED CHANGES IN CFR IF YOU BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE CONTINUED, SHOULD ARRIVE IN THE DEPARTMENT BY COB DECEMBER 9. PLEASE SLUG REPLY FOR S/S-O ONLY.

2. FOLLOWING A THOROUGH REVIEW OF THE CURRENT FOREIGN RELATIONS ISSUES OF THE PAST YEAR, I HAVE REACHED THE TENTATIVE CONCLUSION THAT CFR IS PROBABLY AT BEST ONLY OF MARGINAL UTILITY. CONSEQUENTLY, WE ARE NOW STUDYING WHETHER THE CFR SHOULD BE DISCONTINUED OR WHETHER IT CAN IN FACT BE STRENGTHENED TO THE POINT THAT THE VALUE OF ITS CONTINUED PUBLICATION IS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED.
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3. THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF CFR IS TO PROVIDE TIMELY, HIGH QUALITY ANALYTICAL ARTICLES ON SIGNIFICANT FOREIGN POLICY DEVELOPMENTS TO OVERSEAS FOREIGN SERVICE PERSONNEL. IT SEEKS TO ASSIST THE AREA AND FUNCTIONAL SPECIALISTS TO RELATE THEIR SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE TO THE BROAD CONCERNS FACED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S POLICY MAKERS. IT

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IS NOT MEANT TO BE A WEEKLY NEWS REVIEW, WHICH, WITH ONLY OCCASIONAL EXCEPTIONS, IT NOW APPEARS TO BE. IN ITS PRESENT FORM CFR DOES NOT APPEAR TO JUSTIFY THE TIME, EFFORT AND EXPENSE ON THE PART OF THE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN ITS PREPARATION, NOR THE EXTRA BURDEN ON THE DEPARTMENT'S AND THE POSTS' COMMUNICATION FACILITIES.

4. YOUR CANDID VIEWS ON THIS MATTER, AND THOSE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARIES WHICH I AM ALSO SOLICITING, WILL BE CRUCIAL TO OUR DECISION. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR RESPONSE BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: n/a
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CURRENT FOREIGN RELATIONS
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To: ALL POSTS
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